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Agenda item 20 (b)

STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES OR REGIONS

Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Spain, United States of America and Uruguay: revised draft resolution

Assistance for the reconstruction and development of El Salvador

The General Assembly,

Considering the resolutions recognizing the importance of international cooperation for El Salvador and urging Member States and international institutions to continue to provide assistance to the Government of El Salvador in consolidating peace, democracy and development in the country, particularly resolutions 50/58 C of 12 December 1995 and 51/199 of 17 December 1996,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 8 October 1997 on assistance for the reconstruction and development of El Salvador,[1] which describes activities undertaken with a view to achieving those goals, and the report of the Secretary-General of 1 July 1997 on the assessment of the peace process in El Salvador,[2] which stresses the implementation of the commitments laid down in the Peace Agreements and the progress and profound transformation that have taken place in the country since 1992,

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[1] A/52/433.

[2] A/51/917.

Noting with satisfaction the renewed expression by the Government of El Salvador and all political forces of their political will to consolidate peace and development in a complex context, and the efforts to develop programmes and projects of economic and social benefit aimed at the maintenance and consolidation of peace, the strengthening of democracy and sustainable development,

Recognizing that the reintegration of former combatants and demobilized members of the armed forces continues to be one of the most complex aspects of the social and economic commitments, and that the sustainability of any such programme is linked to broader challenges, such as poverty relief, generation of employment, social integration, public security and efficient, transparent and speedy administration of justice,

Recognizing also that, in spite of national efforts and the support given by the international community, the implementation of priority political, economic, social and environmental programmes and projects in the process of consolidating peace continues to be affected by, inter alia, the limited availability of financial resources, delays in the disbursement of internal and external funds, lack of continuity, deficiencies in the implementation of other initiatives having an impact on the implementation of a number of projects and by the special characteristics of a complex process,

1. Takes note with approval of the reports of the Secretary-General;

2. Again expresses its gratitude to the organs, organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, to the donor community and to international development and financing institutions, both governmental and non-governmental, for the technical and financial assistance they have provided to El Salvador to execute programmes and projects for the implementation of the social and economic commitments and the strengthening of democracy, in support of and as a complement to efforts to consolidate peace;

3. Reaffirms that the continuation of programmes for the strengthening of democratic institutions and the promotion of sustainable development constitute the collective goals, aspirations and needs of the country in maintaining and advancing the consolidation of peace, democracy and sustainable development in El Salvador;

4. Urges the Government of El Salvador and all political forces to make every effort to support the development of medium-term and long-term national programmes and strategies, particularly social welfare projects, designed to improve the lives of the most vulnerable segments of the population;

5. Recognizes the need to continue to respond to the situation in El Salvador and the need for international support and cooperation as a complement to national efforts to promote the consolidation of a fully democratic State;

6. Reaffirms that external cooperation plays an important role in the consolidation of the peace process, the strengthening of democracy and sustainable development in El Salvador, and consequently appeals to the

international community, particularly to the relevant organs of the United Nations system, the international financial organizations, and donor countries, which have contributed so much to the profound changes achieved in El Salvador, to continue to provide political, technical and financial support for achieving the goals, aspirations and needs of the Salvadoran nation;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to consider at that session the question of assistance and cooperation for the sustainable development of El Salvador.